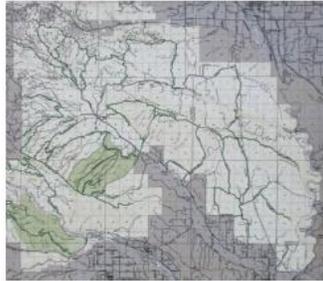


# Wenas Wildlife Area Target Shooting Advisory Committee



SIXTH MEETING  
THURSDAY OCTOBER 19, 2017



## Agenda Review

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|---------|--|
| 6:00 pm | Get settled, introductions (10 min)                      |
| 6:10 pm | Draft Committee Recommendations & Report (1 hour 20 min) |
| 7:30 pm | Transition to Implementation Considerations (30 min)     |
| 8:00 pm | Next Steps for Draft Recommendations (15 min)            |
| 8:15 pm | Public Comment (10 min scheduled, may need to adjust)    |
| 8:25 pm | Final Wrap Up (5 minutes)                                |
| 8:30 pm | Adjourn  |

## Options for Public Comment

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- At Committee meetings
  - *Please stick to 2 minutes or less, because*
  - *Time may be limited by Committee work*
- Through web form
- Through paper form

## Draft Recommendations 1 – 3

Draft Recommendations	Phase I	Phase II
1. WDFW should support dispersed shooting in compliance with applicable rules and regulations in the Wenas Wildlife Area and should make improvements to management of dispersed shooting and other Wildlife Area uses to reduce the potential for user conflicts.	X	X
2. WDFW should take a phased approach to making improvements at the Wenas Wildlife Area.	X	X
3. The WTS Advisory Committee should continue to meet to offer WDFW advice and support as recommendations are implemented. Meetings should be quarterly for the first year and semi-annually after that until the Department and the Committee determine that further support is not needed.	X	x

## Idea for Draft Recommendation 1

- Current draft “WDFW should support dispersed shooting in compliance with applicable rules and regulations in the Wenas Wildlife Area and should make improvements to management of dispersed shooting and other Wildlife Area uses to reduce the potential for user conflicts.”
- Proposed revision “WDFW should encourage and support recreational activities on the Wenas Wildlife Area including dispersed shooting consistent with the Department’s mission and goals. They should make improvements to management of dispersed shooting to improve the user experience and increase compliance with rules and regulations, and should improve education and outreach for all Wildlife Area users to reduce the potential for user conflicts.”

## Draft Recommendations 4- 7

Draft Recommendations	Phase I	Phase II
4. WDFW should develop and install clearer and increased signage at the Wildlife Area including at access points, at the four areas recommended for management for concentrated shooting, and at three identified sites of known likely overlap between shooting and other types of uses at the Wenas.	X	
5. WDFW should develop simple and clear educational materials for all users of the Wenas Wildlife Area, with a particular emphasis on clear materials addressing regulations and best practices for shooting on public lands.	X	
6. WDFW should develop maps showing access points, primary roads and trails, areas managed for concentrated shooting, and any other designed use areas (e.g., dog training areas).	X	
7. WDFW, working with groups such as those represented on the WTS Advisory Committee, should ensure broad distribution of educational materials and maps via multiple distribution methods.	X	

## Draft Recommendations 8 – 10

Draft Recommendations	Phase I	Phase II
8. WDFW should increase staff presence at the Wildlife Area to offer information to users.	X	
9. To further increase staff presence at the Wenas Wildlife Area and provide for ongoing education and outreach, WDFW should work with the WTS Advisory Committee to create and fill the position of Outreach Liaison for WDFW Region 3.		X
10. WDFW, in coordination with local groups, should support and expand the use of volunteers at the Wenas Wildlife Area to help distribute information.	X	

## Education & Outreach

- Liaison – current draft supporting text:
  - “The Committee believes both positions are important; however if limited state funding prevents moving forward on both positions in the near term the Committee believes that state resources should first go to the additional enforcement officer position and other resources (e.g., partnerships, grants as discussed above) should be prioritized for the Outreach Liaison position.”
- Signs
  - Should include emergency numbers/ contacts
  - Too many recommended?
- Getting the word out
  - Include presentations / outreach to groups and tabling / presentations at events

## Draft Recommendations 11 – 15

Draft Recommendations	Phase I	Phase II
11. WDFW should revise its regulations on shooting on public lands (WAC 220-500-140 and WAC 220-500-220) to match DNR's regulations on shooting on public lands (WAC 332-52-145) so the regulations are consistent.	X	
12. WDFW should enhance coordination with local law enforcement, non-enforcement WDFW programs, and volunteer groups (as appropriate) to focus their available patrols and on-site presence for the Wenas at sites of concentrated shooting during anticipated high-use periods and should create and fill at least one additional enforcement officer position for Region 3.	X	X
13. WDFW should partner with the Eyes in the Woods organization offer one or more Eyes in the Woods course and support for the Wenas Wildlife Area, preferably in early spring 2018.		X
14. WDFW should improve existing tools and/or develop new tools to make it simpler for people to document and report illegal behavior.		X
15. WDFW should improve its enforcement records management and work towards a records management system capable of producing analysis-ready reports specific to public safety.		X

## Draft Recommendations 16 – 17

Draft Recommendations	Phase I	Phase II
16. WDFW should immediately begin to actively manage existing concentrated shooting sites at Sheep Company Rd., Durr Rd., Buffalo Rd., and East Umtanum Rd. for concentrated shooting.	X	
17. WDFW should make limited improvements to the locations managed for shooting. Limited improvements should be designed to increase the likelihood of safe and predictable behavior and encourage compliance with requirements and expectations.		X

## Managed Sites – How Identified

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- Started with current roster of heavily used, user defined sites
  - They are already disrupted, so this minimizes additional impacts
  - They are already in use, maximizing likelihood they will continue to be used
- Selected sites where limited improvements (e.g., enhanced or new backstops, side berms, firing lines, benches) could improve safety
- Considered and specified types of firearms and directions of fire based on site conditions
- Prioritized locations with good access, where response times by public safety officers/fire can be faster (steered away from more remote locations)
- Recommended fire risk reduction measures (vegetation clearing and management, etc)

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## Managed Sites – Questions and Ideas

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- Buffalo Rd.
  - Rd from gate to ridge, branching off to east canyon, site there?
  - Beyond power line, east side of existing rd, oriented north/ne?
  - Reroute user defined trail?
  - Shotgun only?
- East Umtanum
  - Reorient direction of fire (from current use)
  - Other responses to neighbor/community concerns?

## Managed Sites - continued

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- Using other than recommended firearm
  - Advised use of that type of firearm is not in compliance with WAC requirements (backstop, etc.) in that location; cite if needed
- “Target shooting safety zone” signs
  - Language is meant to preserve possibility of shooting for hunting – that’s why “no shooting” isn’t recommended
  - Could say also or instead “this area not in compliance with WAC requirements for dispersed shooting”
  - Useful for places that are currently used for shooting but are, in reality, unsafe for that practice.

## Managed Sites - continued

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- If new sites crop up
  - Encourage use of managed sites; step up education and outreach; signs
  - Evaluate to see if new sites meet requirements; if not, step up education and outreach and enforcement at the sites
  - Consult with ongoing WTS Advisory Group for ideas
  - Other actions?

11/16/2017

### Managed Sites North - Detail



North Durr



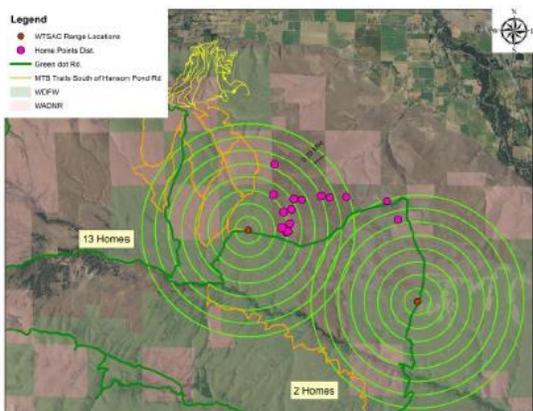
East Umtanum



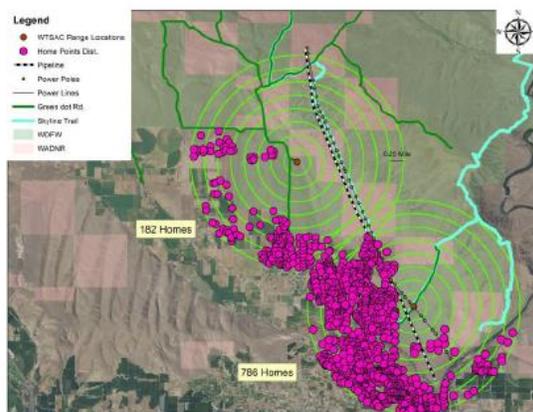
### Example – Free Standing Metal Target



11/16/2017



Managed Sites North



Managed Sites South

11/16/2017

## Transition to Implementation

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1. What is the Committee's advice to WDFW on how to respond if, after the managed sites are in place, people choose not to use them and new "user defined" concentrated shooting locations crop up?
2. What is the likely pace WDFW can achieve for implementation? How does that sync (or not) with Committee expectations? How should adaptive management be addressed?

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## Next Steps for Draft Recommendations

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- Summary of key points from today
- Next steps

11/16/2017

## Final Meeting Dates and Locations

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- Tuesday, November 14 – Selah
- Wednesday, December 13 - Ellensburg



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[Wenas Advisory Committee Meeting 6 – Attachment 2 \(of 2\)](#)

10/11: WTS Advisory Committee – this is a revised, second draft of your report. Changes from the draft you reviewed in September are marked in “redline / strikeout.”

Based on the Committee discussion to date I’ve marked the draft recommendations that I think are essentially “done.” These include the 11 draft recommendations Committee Members present at the September meeting could support or live with, and most of the other 6 recommendations where we made clarifications or changes to better capture peoples’ ideas. The purpose of marking the draft in this way is to elicit your review and to confirm where we are. If I’ve got any of this wrong and you can’t live with some of the draft recommendations I’ve tentatively marked as “done”, please speak up so we have time to understand and address your concerns. Thank you! **Draft recommendations start on page 7.**

As before, know I’ve done my best to capture your discussions; and if I’ve made mistakes we want to correct them. We’re committed to working with you to find the words to reflect your common ground; and if there are places where you don’t agree, to capturing each perspective fully and accurately.

Besides confirming where we are on the draft recommendations, and pending any further / new concerns that may come forward, I think we have a number of remaining topics to discuss, including:

**1. What to recommend about Buffalo Rd. and East Umtanum?** Committee Members have concerns about how best to lay out these sites, how to effectively reduce user conflicts, and what types of firearms would be appropriate to the locations. In the listening sessions we heard from neighbors and other users with safety, fire, and noise concerns about East Umtanum especially.

It seems like there are two options: (1) figure out the details of what to recommend / how to address concerns at each site before the report is final in December. Or, (2) recommend that second sites for managed shooting (north and south) be identified, describe the Committee’s process so far in thinking about Buffalo Rd. and East Umtanum, and recommend that the Committee continue to work with WDFW going forward in the new year to come up with an acceptable approach to make these sites work, or identify other sites. We should discuss how you would like to move forward.

2. Do you want to keep **draft recommendation 1**, revise it further, or delete it?

3. If **specific types of firearms are recommended for some managed sites** (e.g., “shotgun only” at Buffalo Rd), what happens if someone is using a different type of firearm at the managed site?

4. How should the **“target shooting safety zone” signs** described in draft recommendation 4 work? What language for signs is clearest? What advice does the Committee have on future decisions (if any) about when and where to place such signs? How do the signs relate to draft recommendation 1?

5. What is the Committee’s advice to WDFW on how to respond if, after the managed sites are in place, people choose not to use them and **new “user defined” concentrated shooting locations** crop up?

6. Is there agreement on the approach for the **Education and Outreach Liaison** or do we need further revisions, or to capture different perspective?

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7. What is the likely **pace WDFW can achieve for implementation**? How does that sync (or not) with Committee expectations?

And, I'm sure there will be more to discuss! Thanks again everyone for all your work on this, see you October 19, from 6-8:30, at the Armory in Ellensburg.

## Table of Contents

*[To be added]*

### I. Background and Introduction

This report provides the recommendations of the Wenas Wildlife Area Target Shooting Advisory Committee ("WTS Advisory Committee" or "Committee"). The 105,000-acre Wenas Wildlife Area spans Yakima and Kittitas counties, and includes Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and federal Bureau of Land Management BLM lands managed primarily by WDFW. Dispersed shooting has long occurred on the Wildlife Area and is expected to continue. Use of Wenas Wildlife Area by other recreation users (motorized, nature watching, hunting, etc.) also is expected to continue. WDFW convened the Wenas Target Shooting (WTS) Advisory Committee to develop recommendations for how WDFW can best provide for dispersed shooting on the Wenas Wildlife Area.

The WTS Advisory Committee represents broad recreational and neighbor interests in the Wenas Wildlife Area, and is comprised of 20 members representing: neighbors and affected landowners, hunters, target shooters, horseback riders, mountain bike riders, hikers, wildlife watchers, bird dog trainers, motorized users, and others. WDFW sent a broad invitation asking stakeholders to apply to participate in the WTS Committee. WDFW selected Advisory Committee members from among the applicants based on the following:

- Active user of the Wenas Wildlife Area
- Acceptance of the basic problem statement and Committee purpose and objectives
- Interest in developing a sustainable solution to recreational target shooting management at Wenas Wildlife Area
- Past experience with collaborative processes
- Ability to represent a broader user group constituency
- Willingness to participate in regular Committee meetings

The Committee met *[number]* times between May 2017 and December 2017. Government agencies including WDFW and the WDNR participated in the Committee as Ex Officio participants. Local elected officials also (at their discretion) participated as Ex Officio participants. Ex Officio participants served as resources to the Committee.

Public input was important to the Committee process. All Committee meetings were open to the public and opportunities for public comment were provided at each meeting. In addition, WDFW hosted four listening sessions to facilitate the Committee receiving public input. Finally, the Committee maintained an on-line public comment form. Summaries of Committee meetings, the listening sessions, and online comments are available at the [Committee website](#).

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The Committee considered a variety of information in its deliberations including information on WDFW management history and priorities for the Wenas; existing rules and regulations applicable to shooting on public lands; complaints, concerns, and enforcement at the Wenas; and, fires, littering and trash. Information considered by the Committee is summarized in Section II.

The Committee operated by consensus. For purposes of the Committee's deliberations "consensus" means that all members of the Committee can at least "live with" a recommendation, even if it is not their first (or even their preferred) choice. Consensus was evaluated through a variety of techniques, including one-on-one conversations with Advisory Committee members, straw polling during meetings, and documented review of Committee materials.

Ultimately the Committee reached consensus on recommendations addressing: *[summarize consensus here]*.

The Committee discussed but did not reach consensus on *[summarize non-consensus issues here if needed]*. For these issues, the report describes the full range of Committee Member perspectives and opinions.

Recommendations *[and non-consensus issues if any]* are described in Section III.

## II. Information Considered During Committee Deliberations

During early discussions, Committee members identified several types of information as important to informing Committee development of recommendations. In particular, Committee members were interested in gaining insight into the actual scope of the safety and fire issues at the Wenas Wildlife Area. Committee members sought information in the following areas:

- Wenas Wildlife Area management history & WDFW management priorities
- Existing rules and regulations related to Wildlife Area use
- Number of users, types of users, and when people use the Wildlife Area
- Safety concerns and complaints submitted to WDFW
- Enforcement by WDFW and other agencies
- Number of fires at the Wildlife Area and likely cause

The Committee facilitators and WDFW worked with Committee members and member organizations to compile existing data in these areas and provide summaries and complete data sets to the Committee. A high-level summary of available data is provided in the following sections. Full data are available on the Committee's [website](#).

Overall, Committee members expressed frustration with the lack of detailed information available and noted that improved information collection will be needed to determine the impact of Committee recommendations, and to refine and adaptively manage actions at the Wenas over time.

### A. Management History and Priorities at the Wenas Wildlife Area

The Wenas Wildlife Area was created in 1997 by combining portions of the L.T. Murray and Oak Creek Wildlife Areas. WDFW is the land manager for the Wenas Wildlife Area, which includes lands owned by WDNR and BLM. WDFW's management of the Wenas Wildlife Area is consistent with the Agency's

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mission “To preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.” Since the Wenas Wildlife Area’s inception, dispersed shooting has been available to the public; however, during the early 2000’s WDFW began considering how to better manage dispersed shooting at the Wildlife Area due to increasing public use not only from shooters but also from other users.

WDFW’s priority is to continue offering shooting opportunities at the Wildlife Area while conserving habitat and providing safe recreational opportunities for all Wildlife Area users. To that end, the Department requested that the Committee provide recommendations which strike a balance between seven interrelated goals: (1) support by the local communities; (2) reduction in risk to Wildlife Area users and neighbors; (3) improved habitat protection; (4) reduction in fire risks; (5) financially attainable and manageable; (6) provide predictability for all users; and (7) adhere to clear and concise standards.

#### **B. Existing Rules and Regulations for Shooting on Public Lands**

The three agencies (WDFW, WDNR, and BLM) that own land within the Wenas Wildlife Area each have their own rules and regulations governing shooting. In theory, the rules and regulations for each agency apply based on land ownership. However, the complexity of the checkerboard agency ownership within the Wenas Wildlife Area makes it impractical to try to enforce three different sets of rules and regulations. Because of this, WDFW’s enforcement approach is to apply WDFW rules and regulations across the entire Wenas Wildlife Area. WDFW’s regulations for shooting on public lands (WAC 220-500-140 and WAC 220-500-220) were put in place before WDNR’s (WAC 332-52-145) and are less detailed and less specific than the WDNR regulations. The lack of specificity in the WDFW regulations can present a challenge for enforcement. In addition, given the checker-board nature of the lands, the difference between existing regulations can sometimes cause confusion.

Other law enforcement agencies, primarily Kittitas and Yakima County Sheriff’s offices and the Washington State Patrol, apply the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) when responding to safety concerns at the Wildlife Area.

#### **C. Use and User Groups at the Wenas Wildlife Area**

*[To be added; will summarize development of use survey and results]*

#### **D. Safety Concerns and Complaints**

WDFW tracks written complaints/concerns on an ad hoc basis. These complaints/concerns are received by various Department staff and through several other channels such as e-mail messages to WDFW staff, comments cards at public meetings, and letters. There is no formal tracking mechanism for written concerns or complaints – tracking relies on Department staff to save complaints and concerns in their working files.

Similarly, WDFW has no mechanism to track or record complaints or concerns that come from phone calls to the Department or are transmitted in one-on-one conversations between Department staff and the public (for example, if someone meets a WDFW employee on the Wenas and complains about trash or a locked gate or a shooting incident, these complaints are not tracked unless they are subsequently submitted in writing).

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WDFW provided the Committee with all written complaints/concerns related to the Wenas Wildlife Area since 2004. During that time, 15 individuals described a first-hand experience where they felt unsafe due to shooting activities. (See Attachment 1.) The Committee attempted to cross-walk the first-hand shooting experiences with WDFW enforcement data and was not able to document that any of the experiences were reported to or investigated by WDFW enforcement in real time. For the most part, complaints/concerns were sent in well after the fact, making an investigation impossible. In some cases, the dates are vague or not provided and therefore cannot be matched with certainty to enforcement data. WDFW enforcement staff told the Committee anecdotally, that, in most cases, by the time an officer arrives on scene of a reported shooting-related complaint at the Wildlife Area, the party that is shooting has already left the scene and it is practically impossible to assess what occurred.

#### **E. Enforcement**

The WTS Advisory Committee received enforcement data from the Kittitas County Sheriff's Office and from WDFW Region 3 Enforcement staff.

##### **Kittitas County Sheriff's Office**

The Kittitas County Sheriff's Office reviewed their records of calls/contacts on the Wenas Wildlife Area from 2010 to present. During that timeframe, there were 13 target shooting-related calls logged as occurring on the Wenas Wildlife Area. On further investigation, 12 of these calls were on state land and 1 was on private property.

Of the 12 target-shooting related calls on state land, 2 were confirmed as illegal shooting that represented either public risk or a criminal violation, and for which citations were issued. Of the other 10 calls, 5 were from members of the public requesting information on where to shoot legally, 4 were investigated and confirmed to be legal shooting activity, and 3 were reported as fire hazards.

##### **Yakima County Sheriff's Office**

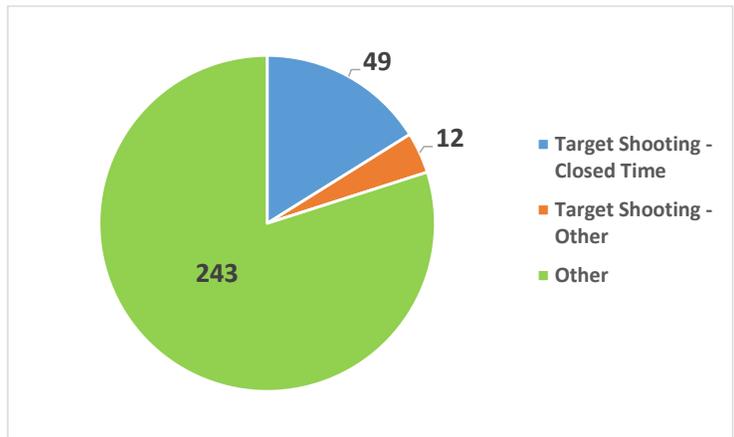
According to information drawn from a public disclosure request, from 2010 to March 2017 Yakima County Sheriff's Office recorded 15 total shooting-related responses on the Wenas Wildlife Area. Of these 15 responses, 10 were confirmed as shooting outside of allowed hours, 2 were investigated and found to be legal shooting activity, 2 were investigated and found to be unsafe shooting and education/information was provided, and the reasons of the remaining response could not be determined. There are no records of citations issued.

##### **WDFW Region 3 Enforcement**

WDFW Region 3 enforcement does not have data to summarize or evaluate contacts/calls that did not result in enforcement action, only summary data on citations issued (i.e., they do not track incidents of public contact or verbal warnings issued; only citations). Between July 2013 and July 20, 2017 there were 61 target-shooting-related citations issued on the Wenas Wildlife Area; 49 were for "Target Shooting - Closed Time" and 12 were for "Target Shooting – Other." During the time period examined, target-shooting-related complaints represented 20% of citations issued on the Wenas (see Figure 1 below). WDFW is not able to further break down citations by geography (i.e., in their tracking they do not distinguish between the north and south ends of the Wenas).

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Figure 1: WDFW Citations at Wenas Wildlife Area (7/2013 to 7/20/2017)



The 12 enforcement actions for “Target Shooting – Other” included failure to remove target material, illegal targets, and use of exploding targets; details are provided in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Shooting-Related Enforcement Fire-Data by Incident Type/Citation

Incident Number	Incident Type/Citation	Number of Citations Issued
WA-16-003284	Failure to remove target material	1
WA-14-000036	Illegal Targets	3
WA-14-001492	Illegal Targets	1
WA-15-005591	Illegal Targets	2
WA-15-010197	Illegal Targets	1
WA-13-013163	Use Exploding Targets	2
WA-14-004992	Use Exploding Targets	1
WA-16-001910	Use Exploding Targets	1

#### F. Fire

Between 2003 and 2014 there were 30 fires at the Wenas Wildlife Area which burned a total approximately 11,699 acres and cost nearly \$3 million in suppression and restoration. WDFW and the Advisory Committee had extensive discussion of fire data for the Wenas to try to determine with some certainty how many fires could be attributed to target shooting. For 6 fires, the individuals responsible for starting the fire called 911 and reported that the fire started as a result of target shooting; [these claims were not investigated to determine if the cause was legal or illegal shooting activity, or for accuracy.](#) For the remaining 9 fires ~~that were~~ discussed, WDFW is confident that the [fires](#) were

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human caused but acknowledges that, because their fire investigation is focused on documenting the response costs and damages from fires, not on establishing cause, they cannot be certain as to what human activity caused the fire. While the exact number of fires that can be attributed to target shooting in addition to the six self-reported fires is not known, given that there is *some* fire risk from shooting activity, the Committee recommendations include steps to mitigate fire risk at concentrated shooting sites.

In 2012 WDFW began implementing time-of-use restrictions on shooting at the Wenas. Although the exact dates of these restrictions vary, they generally begin in late May or early June and remain in effect through the end of September. In 2012-2014 shooting was prohibited after 11:00 am; from 2015-2016 shooting was prohibited after 10:00 am. During parts of 2014 and 2015 shooting was completely prohibited due to high fire risk.

### III. [DRAFT] Recommendations

The Committee is making four types of interrelated recommendations to WDFW.

- A. Overall recommendations which describe a phased approach to improving the experience for shooters and all other users at the Wenas.
- B. Recommendations describing much needed education and outreach for all user groups and calling for increased education and outreach enforcement resources.
- C. Recommendations describing the role of enforcement and calling for increased enforcement resources.
- D. Recommendations for limited improvements at four sites that historically and currently have been locations of concentrated shooting activities to increase safety.

WDFW requested the Committee develop recommendations which meet the Department's mission: "To preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems, while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities" and which: (1) are supported by the local communities; (2) reduce risk to Wildlife Area users and neighbors; (3) improve habitat protection; (4) reduce fire risks; (5) are financially attainable and manageable; (6) provide predictability for all users; and (7) adhere to clear and concise standards. Consistent with WDFW's request to the Committee, the Committee believes that these recommendations, taken as a package, meet this request and represent an appropriate balance between the multiple seven goals WDFW expressed for this effort.

#### A. Overall Recommendations

Overall recommendations set the tone for the Committee's more specific recommendations on education and outreach, enforcement, and management of sites for concentrated shooting.

1. **[Discussion needed]** WDFW should support ~~not prohibit or discourage~~ dispersed shooting in compliance with applicable rules and regulations in the Wenas Wildlife Area and should make improvements to management of dispersed shooting and other Wildlife Area uses to reduce the potential for user conflicts.

Commented [EM1]: Keep? Revise? Delete?

The Committee believes strongly that all uses, including dispersed shooting, should continue to be supported and managed at the Wenas Wildlife Area. WDFW should take actions to improve user

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experiences across all user groups, in particular, through education and outreach, targeted enforcement, and better management of select sites for concentrated shooting as described in this report. These recommendations do not affect hunting. The Committee recommends no changes to or limitations on legal hunting within the Wenas.

**2. *[Done; Committee in Agreement?] WDFW should take a phased approach to making improvements at the Wenas Wildlife Area.***

The Committee acknowledges that implementing these recommendations will take time and effort and that the resources needed, in particular, to make limited improvements at sites managed for concentrated shooting will take time – and probably legislative action – to obtain. The Committee recommends beginning with actions that are quicker and less expensive to implement, followed by monitoring, and then moving towards more intensive management and investment if and where warranted.

Phase 1 is comprised of the majority of the recommendations on education and outreach, including development of new education and outreach materials, distribution of these materials, increased staff and volunteer presence on the Wildlife Area to provide information, and signs including signs at areas managed for concentrated shooting. It also includes revisions to the WDFW regulations on shooting on public lands to improve clarity and predictability, improved information collection, and management of areas for concentrated shooting (see Recommendations 4-8, 10, 11, 15, and 16). Phase 1 should begin as soon as possible.

Phase 2 includes hiring an education and outreach liaison, increased enforcement emphasis and resources, and limited improvements to sites managed for concentrated shooting. (See recommendations 9, 12-14, and 17.)

Phase 1 and 2 are not intended to be strictly sequential, they can overlap. For example, if resources are available, priority improvements to sites managed for concentrated shooting might begin immediately and overlap with development and distribution of education and outreach materials. One of the intentions of the phased approach is to ensure that WDFW begins implementation of recommendations that can be accomplished quickly immediately and makes real progress, rather than waiting until resources enough for everything are available to start. Overall, the Committee anticipates the phased approach will take four or more years to complete, with the first phase being completed in the first year if not sooner.

Appendix A lists the Committee's recommendations by phase. Detailed discussion of education and outreach recommendations begins on page [number], enforcement recommendations begin on page [number], and recommendations on managing a limited number of sites for concentrated shooting begin on page [number].

**3. *[Done; Committee in Agreement?] The WTS Advisory Committee should continue to meet to offer WDFW advice and support as recommendations are implemented. Meetings should be quarterly for the first year and semi-annually after that until the Department and the Committee determine that further support is not needed.***

The WTS Advisory Committee is willing to continue to be engaged as recommendations are implemented. Future committee roles could include: support and assistance for WDFW as it works

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with user groups, and local and elected officials to implement recommendations, ongoing advice and adaptive management as more information emerges over time, and direct assistance through volunteering. The Committee acknowledges that some members may not be willing or able to commit to continuing involvement; in those cases, members should be replaced by a representative of a similar constituency/user group.

## B. Education and Outreach

Education and outreach are the cornerstone of a long-term strategy to improve safety, reduce littering, reduce fire risk, ~~provide~~ ensure habitat protection, and create a better overall environment for all users at the Wenas Wildlife Area. Committee recommendations are based on the notion that visitors to the Wenas Wildlife Area need the following types of information in order to recreate safely and compatibly with other users:

- When are you entering the Wildlife Area?
- What are the applicable rules/regulations for each user group?
- What are the expectations for each user group (shooters, horseback riders, hikers, mountain bikers, dog trainers, motorized users)? How can each group behave responsibly, both within its own activity and around other types of activity?
- Where are more commonly used areas for shooting?
- Where are more commonly used areas for other uses?
- Where are habitat conservation areas?

The Committee believes most people are interested in doing the right thing (or doing things the right way), and that the main obstacle to being able to do this is a lack of information. The Committee's recommendations address this information gap through several different approaches, most prominently:

- Development of clear materials describing what types of uses to expect at the Wenas Wildlife Area and requirements and best practices for various uses, including shooting
- Aggressive and coordinated distribution of the materials
- Increased staff presence at the Wildlife Area during peak use times
- Better signs and maps
- Continued and increased use of volunteers to amplify education and outreach efforts (including Eyes in the Woods)

Except for recommendation eight, which the Committee understands will take longer, the Committee recommends that all of the education and outreach recommendations be part of Phase 1 and that they be implemented by WDFW as soon as possible.

4. **[Discussion needed]** *WDFW should develop and install clearer and increased signage at the Wildlife Area including at access points, at the four areas recommended for management for concentrated shooting, and at three identified sites of known likely overlap between shooting and other types of uses at the Wenas.*

The Committee believes that signage at the Wenas Wildlife Area could be improved for clarity of message as well as general visibility. WDFW should develop a strategy around both the content and placement of signage in and around the Wildlife Area as part of its overall education and outreach

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efforts – this should ensure the right sign, with the right information, at the right place. The Committee is sensitive to the notion of “sign pollution” and “sign overload” and has structured its recommendations to highlight only the types and locations for signage that it believes are most necessary. Specifically, signs are recommended at the following locations:

**Access points.** Signs at access points should include information welcoming users to the Wenas Wildlife Area and describing the various uses that might be encountered, including target shooting, and indicating where various uses might be encountered, and encouraging respect between user groups.

**Four locations recommended for management for concentrated shooting.** As discussed in recommendation number 16 these are: Buffalo Road, Sheep Company, North Durr Road., and East Umptanum. Signs at locations managed for concentrated shooting should include:

- The type of firearm best suited for discharge at each location
- The intended shooting lanes and directions
- Requirements and expectations for shooting behavior
- Fines and penalties if requirements are not met
- Specific (directional) information on other nearby uses and what other users shooters might expect to encounter at each that shooters unfamiliar with the areas might not otherwise be aware of. Paragraph C below identifies an initial set of these areas. Additional areas, if necessary, should be identified in coordination with the Advisory Committee.

**Known areas of likely heavy overlap between shooters and other users.** Areas near or adjacent to locations managed for concentrated shooting where topography, lack of adequate backstop, the crossing of trails or roads, or the proximity of houses render shooting unsafe should be signed. The Committee has identified three such areas so far:

- The “cut off” trail to access the Sky Line trail at Buffalo Road which has heavy use by hikers and horseback riders
- The Umptanum creek crossing at Durr Road
- The Umptanum Falls parking area

Signs should read “Target Shooting Safety Zone – The Area Behind this Sign Does Not meet the Requirements of WAC XXX-XX-XXX for [safe](#) Target Shooting due to XXXXXXXX”, or similar. ~~[Note: I am not sure if there is agreement on this wording; this needs further discussion.]~~

Finally, signs should be placed where other users may be coming into proximity of areas managed for concentrated shooting but might be unaware of this use because they are unfamiliar with the area and are approaching from an area other than the main access. The Committee has identified one such area so far:

- The Cottonwood drainage (above Sheep Company) warning hikers and horseback riders they are nearing an area managed for concentrated shooting

The Committee emphasizes that areas signed in these ways should be identified in consultation with the Advisory Committee and with an eye towards limiting signs to only the locations most in need of them to reduce the overall number and type of signs on the Wildlife Area.

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The Committee acknowledges that signs alone are not enough to curb inappropriate behavior or educate the public about “where to go and what to do” at the Wildlife Area. The Committee also acknowledges that signs may be vandalized or destroyed and will require regular maintenance or replacement (as one Committee member said, “Whoever invents a bullet proof sign will be a very rich person”). However, proper signage is still an important part of education for visitors to the Wildlife Area and should not be neglected. One of the interesting ideas proposed by Committee members is to use the image of the U.S. flag on Wildlife Area signage (possibly even as a background) as a means of deterring vandalism. WDFW could even try an experiment using one sign (or set of signs) with the flag image, and one without, and see if one set of signs receives more damage. Another idea put forward by Committee members is to put signs in place to ensure people understand that children and families may be playing/recreating nearby (akin to the “slow children at play” signs in many neighborhoods).

[Note: there are some concerns about too much reliance on signs—or too many signs—discussion is needed to know if the draft is striking the right balance.]

5. **[Done; Committee in Agreement?]** *WDFW, working with user groups such as those represented on the WTS Advisory Committee, should develop simple and clear educational materials for all users of the Wenas Wildlife Area, with a particular emphasis on clear materials addressing regulations and best practices for shooting on public lands.*

Educational materials should describe requirements and conduct expectations on public lands and where on the Wenas Wildlife Area users might expect to encounter different activities. At a minimum, this information should address:

- [Different uses at the Wildlife Area and Common locations](#) of different uses including roads, trails, horse riding areas, dog training areas, managed shooting locations, and other relevant information on where different uses commonly happen on the Wenas Wildlife Area
- [Different types of habitat at the Wildlife Area and plants and animals which depend on the habitat](#)
- Requirements for public conduct
- “Good Neighbor” expectations for what users should expect when encountering other uses, and polite behavior / etiquette between user groups

Materials could include one-page handouts, flyers, maps (see also recommendation 6 on maps, below) or postcards. They could even include paper targets with safety/use information printed on the back.

WDFW does not have to start from scratch to develop these materials. Other public agencies and organizations have developed materials that could be adapted for use at the Wenas Wildlife Area.

Examples include:

- DNR
  - o [Shooting Flyer](#)
  - o [Mountain Biking Flyer](#)
  - o Multiple Use Flyer
- Trash No Land
  - o [Brochure: Common Rules for Shooting on Public Lands](#)
- National Shooting Sports Foundation

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- [Fire Warning Flyer](#)
- BLM
  - [Shooting Flyer](#)

6. **[Done; Committee in Agreement?]** *WDFW should develop maps showing access points, to describe all primary locations of roads and trails, areas managed for indicate areas of concentrated shooting, and any other designed use areas (e.g., dog training areas). indicate areas of high use areas for other types of recreation (hiking trails, dog training areas, etc.).*

Maps should be available on paper (for handout), prominently posted at all entrances and trailheads, and readily available online. They could also incorporate information on times of year when uses increase. Committee members note that the Green Dot map is a successful example of a clear, easy to understand map that indicates the appropriate trail system for motorized use at the Wenas Wildlife Area. It might be used as the basis for the more comprehensive map recommended here. A similar approach should be undertaken for other uses. An [example map](#) showing multiple uses was recently developed for the Teanaway Community Forest.

7. **[Done; Committee in Agreement?]** *WDFW, working with groups such as those represented on the WTS Advisory Committee, should ensure broad distribution of educational materials and maps via multiple distribution methods.*

Educational materials will only make a difference if they get in the hands of users. WDFW should consider and to the maximum extent practical, make use of, the following distribution methods for educational materials:

- Outreach to local stores that sell firearms and ammunition (for example, ask retailers to hand out a “best practices” flyer when people purchase a firearm and/or ammunition)
- Shared at events (including by supporting organizations, e.g., shared at the NRA table at the Central Washington fair)
- Available at DFW offices and on the DFW website
- Shared with local groups such as NRA chapters, Mule Deer Foundation, Field and Stream, 4H clubs, Master Hunters, Backcountry Horsemen, mountain bikers, local Audubon chapters, and hiking groups (note: this list is not comprehensive and is meant to illustrate that there are many local groups that could help distribute information)
- Distributed to local law enforcement and fire departments
- Distributed to Central Washington University for distribution to incoming classes and, particularly to University police and the part of the University that operates firearms lockers for students

People take in information from a variety of sources and methods, from television to newspaper to Facebook posts. Educating the public on proper use at the Wenas Wildlife Area is no different, and will require a mix of traditional media outreach, social media channels, and personal contact such as talking with users at trailheads, meeting with local groups, and having a presence at local events.

Recommendations 8-11 below address the notion that successful education and outreach will require not only written materials but also one-on-one contact with Wenas users.

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8. **[Done; Committee in Agreement?]** *WDFW should increase staff presence at the Wildlife Area to offer information to users.*

Every public contact is an opportunity to educate people on appropriate use of the Wildlife Area. WDFW staff should take advantage of these opportunities by handing out informational materials and communicating with members of the public whenever possible (for example, if WDFW staff are undertaking maintenance work and encounter a group of hikers, take the opportunity to provide information). Additionally, WDFW should coordinate staff efforts related to education and outreach during times of high user activity such as weekends and the 2-3 weeks prior to hunting season when a large number of hunters typically access the Wildlife Area to sight in their firearms. As with other recommendations, local volunteer groups can bolster WDFW staff presence.

As part of rolling out the new educational information recommended above, the Committee recommends a concerted effort to increase staff visibility and get information in the hands of users by stationing WDFW staff and/or volunteers at heavily used entrances to the Wenas during days and hours of peak use (likely weekends) for at least 4 weeks in an effort to meet a broad cross-section of users and get them information.

The Committee recognizes that resources are limited and that this sort of effort will involve decisions to move staff from other tasks to this work, and/or assign resources (managers, planners, etc.) that normally do not work in the field to temporary field duty.

9. **[Discussion needed]** *To further increase staff presence at the Wenas Wildlife Area and provide for ongoing education and outreach, WDFW should work with the WTS Advisory Committee to create and fill the position of Outreach Liaison for WDFW Region 3.*

At a minimum, the Outreach Liaison should be tasked with coordinating distribution of education and outreach material to increase knowledge of expected behavior and what to anticipate among all Wenas Wildlife Area user groups, identifying gaps in education and outreach materials, and working with user groups to create new materials as needed. The Committee had discussion of whether this should be a Department staff or a volunteer position; ultimately the Committee determined that a Department staff position would more reliably fulfill this important role. The Committee recognizes that state funding for new positions is very difficult in the current state budget atmosphere. It encourages WDFW to partner with NGOs or other interested groups to explore joint funding for this position. Grant funding also may be available for positions such as this and should be pursued.

Overall the Committee is recommending two new WDFW positions in this report: the outreach liaison discussed here and a new enforcement officer for WDFW Region 3 discussed in recommendation 12. The Committee believes both positions are important; however if limited state funding prevents moving forward on both positions in the near term the Committee believes that state resources should first go to the additional enforcement officer position and other resources (e.g., partnerships, grants as discussed above) should be prioritized for the Outreach Liaison position. [Note: some Subgroup members think this position should be volunteer, others believe it should be WDFW staff. This issue needs further discussion.]

10. **[Done; Committee in Agreement?]** *WDFW, in coordination with local groups, should support and expand the use of volunteers at the Wenas Wildlife Area to help distribute information.*

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Volunteers have been, and will continue to be, an important part of WDFW's outreach and education efforts. Many of the recommendations described above will be bolstered by volunteer actions, which WDFW can help coordinate in order to maximize outreach and education activities. In addition to the recommendations described above, volunteers can also help WDFW by:

- Providing information at areas commonly used for shooting, to encourage safe and responsible behavior
- Providing information at Wildlife Area access points about where various types of uses are most likely to occur and how users can safely co-exist
- Expanding trash pickup beyond the annual cleanups, for example by creating an "Adopt an Area" program similar to the "Adopt a Highway" program

### C. Enforcement

Enforcement is intended to back up education and outreach activities. Recommendations are focused on clarifying regulations for shooting on public lands and optimizing existing enforcement resources, with the understanding that additional resources may be difficult to obtain. However, the Committee is recommending at least one new enforcement officer (see Recommendation 12, below) and is supportive of WDFW budget requests to establish these new resources. The Committee understands that the Legislature makes decisions about WDFW's budget.

Except for recommendation 11 to clarify requirements for shooting on public lands, and recommendation 15 on information management, which the Committee believes should be implemented as soon as possible, enforcement recommendations are intended to be part of Phase 2 and to come after initiation of increased education and outreach.

11. **[Done; Committee in Agreement?]** *WDFW should revise its regulations on shooting on public lands (WAC 220-500-140 and WAC 220-500-220) to match DNR's regulations on shooting on public lands (WAC 332-52-145) so the regulations are consistent. If there are improvements or clarifications to be made to the regulations for shooting on public lands they should be made at the same time to both the WDFW and the DNR regulations.*

Currently, WDFW and WDNR regulations for shooting on public lands are different. WDFW's regulations for shooting on public lands were put in place before WDNR's and are less detailed and less specific. The lack of specificity in the WDFW regulations can present a challenge for enforcement. In addition, given the checker-board nature of the lands, the difference between existing regulations can sometimes cause confusion. Revising the regulations for shooting on public lands to make them consistent would alleviate these concerns, clarify requirements, and simplify enforcement. In general, the Committee anticipates that the WDFW regulations will move in the direction of the WDNR regulations in this revision; however, if there are concerns with the clarity of the WDNR regulations, this also is an opportunity to address those. The outcome the Committee is looking for is one set of reasonably specific, reasonably detailed, clear regulations for shooting on public lands that execute existing requirements. [One way to accomplish this is for WDFW to simply incorporate the WDNR regulations by reference. Incorporation by reference has the added benefit of ensuring that the regulations would remain consistent into the future.](#)

12. **[Done; Committee in Agreement?]** *WDFW should enhance coordination with local law enforcement, non-enforcement WDFW programs, and volunteer groups (as appropriate) to focus*

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*their available patrols and on-site presence for the Wenas at sites of concentrated shooting during anticipated high-use periods and should create and fill at least one additional enforcement officer position for Region 3.*

The Committee was briefed on the challenges associated with enforcement at the Wenas Wildlife Area. These included the need for enforcement officers to cover a broad area encompassing not just the Wenas but other wildlife areas as well, the difficulty in responding quickly (i.e., **when** an incident is occurring) given the distances that must be covered, and the need to address multiple enforcement priorities at any given time. The Committee understands these challenges; the Committee also understands that WDFW Region 3 enforcement already devotes more than half their available resources to the Wenas Wildlife Area.

To address these challenges the Committee recommends a two-pronged approach. First, the Committee recommends that WDFW meet with local law enforcement, and other enforcement agencies, to discuss concerns at the Wenas and develop a plan for emphasis enforcement patrols and presence. This should emphasize existing areas of concentrated shooting and times of known and anticipated high use. Education and outreach should be the focus of these patrols initially, however the focus should shift to issuing citations (when warranted) over time. Increased enforcement patrols should be coordinated with the increased presence of WDFW staff and volunteers (see recommendations 8-11) so the two activities can be mutually reinforcing.

Second, to supplement existing enforcement resources WDFW should add one additional enforcement officer for Region 3. The Committee understands that additional resources will be required to implement this recommendation and that Legislative action will be needed for these resources to become available. Committee Members are willing to support WDFW in seeking resources to implement this recommendation. *[Note: there is some concern that recommending additional enforcement emphasis patrols, and existing officers, is not realistic. This issue needs further discussion.]*

13. **[Done; Committee in Agreement?]** *WDFW should partner with the Eyes in the Woods organization offer one or more ~~an~~ Eyes in the Woods course and support for the Wenas Wildlife Area, preferably in early spring 2018.*

Eyes in the Woods is endorsed by Committee members as an important program that empowers hunters and others to report inappropriate behavior without the need for direct confrontation. *[More on EOY?]*

14. **[Done; Committee in Agreement?]** *WDFW should improve existing tools and/or develop new tools ~~develop a mobile application to make it simpler for people to document and report illegal behavior.~~*

*The ability to identify, understand, and manage concerns at the Wildlife Area depends on participation from users. At listening sessions and during comments at their meetings, Committee Members heard from people* WDFW currently has a text-tip line that can be used to report concerns; however, Committee members who have experience with the line found it difficult and cumbersome to use. The Committee recommends *improvement of existing tools and/or development of new tools so people can more easily communicate concerns and document and report tips and illegal behaviors. The Committee*

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was especially interested in development of a mobile application for reporting. ~~a mobile application to replace the text tip line.~~ This could be similar (and perhaps use some of the same technology) as mobile applications the Department has developed for reporting invasive weeds and other invasive species.

**15. [Done; Committee in Agreement?] WDFW should improve its enforcement records management and work towards ~~develop and/or adopt~~ a records management system capable of producing analysis-ready reports specific to public safety.**

The Committee was frustrated by the limited information available on WDFW enforcement activities at the Wenas and by the time (and level of effort) required to produce summaries and reports. Additional information on enforcement would allow better tracking and understanding of emerging problem areas and issues and promote more focused education and outreach, and more targeted enforcement follow up. At the same time, the Committee recognizes that records management technology is expensive both in the sense of acquiring the system and in the sense of training on the system and maintaining it. The Committee recommends that over time WDFW move towards a more robust invest in a records management system that can produce results similar to that available to most local law enforcement, including sufficient detail to allow for identification of "hot spots" of bad behavior, and tracking of public safety issues such as:

- Type of call (question, accusation etc.)
- Where, when, date/time reported, date/time investigated/ date/time closed.
- Type of closure (arrest, citation, filed with prosecutor for review, warning, unfounded, not sustained etc.)

#### D. Management of Select Sites for Concentrated Shooting

The Committee recommends that four specific sites at which shooting has historically been concentrated be actively managed for concentrated shooting. The committee does not recommend development of formal shooting ranges at these sites. Rather it recommends that the sites be clearly identified as areas managed for concentrated shooting so that all users can plan their activities accordingly, and that the inherent safety features of the sites be improved and amplified to make them more obvious to users, particularly users who may be unfamiliar with the Wildlife Area.

Locations recommended for concentrated shooting management were identified by Committee members after visiting many of the current locations of concentrated shooting and considering their pros and cons relative to inherent safety features, proximity to high-use areas for other users, access, and ability for fire response. In most cases, Committee members visited the locations multiple times, together in small groups and individually. In response to Committee member requests, WDFW provided information on area under consideration for recommendation, including information on past evaluations of the sites.

~~16-~~ **16. [Discussion needed] WDFW should immediately begin to actively manage existing concentrated shooting sites at Sheep Company Rd., Durr Rd., Buffalo Rd., and East Umtanum Rd. the following locations for concentrated shooting.**

The Committee identified four existing locations of concentrated shooting to be actively managed for shooting uses going forward, two in the South Wenas and two in the North. These locations and the types of management recommended are:

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- Buffalo Rd (**exact location to be determined**) -- WDFW should make limited improvements for shotgun ~~only and potentially pistol~~ with NW orientation.
- Sheep Company Road (existing concentrated shooting area) – WDFW should make limited improvements for rifle and hand gun with NE orientation.
- North Durr Rd. (portion of existing concentrated shooting area) – WDFW should make limited improvements for short-to-mid-range and shotgun/trap.
- East Umptanum (portion of existing concentrated shooting area) – WDFW should make limited improvements for mid to long range.

**Commented [EM2]:** Location? Orientation? Type of firearm? What do you want to say, if anything about the relationship to the "cut off" / access trail?

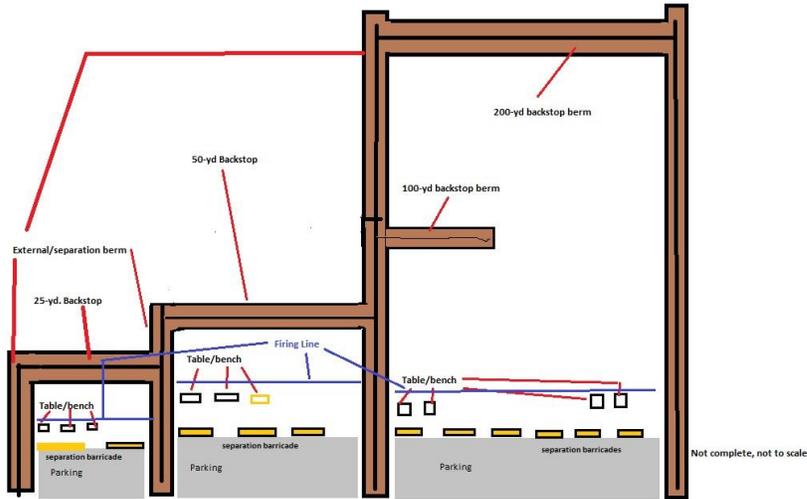
The Committee identified these locations after visiting as many of the existing, user-defined, concentrated shooting sites as possible. From that menu of sites, they considered factors such as the inherent safety features of each area based on topography, surrounding land uses, other uses at the shooting area (e.g., proximity of trails), access, and potential for fire response. The Committee had a preference for sites that are already used for concentrated shooting, sites with inherent safety features that could be enhanced, sites with good access, near the entrances to the Wildlife Area, and sites with good fire response. The Committee prefers to use existing, user-defined locations for the managed shooting sites, both because those locations are already known to and used by shooters, and because they are already impacted by active use, so relying on them minimizes disturbance of unimpacted habitat.

**Commented [EM3]:** Location? Orientation? Type of firearm? What do you want to say about neighbor / other user concerns?

Figures ~~[number]2~~ through ~~[number]4~~ are conceptual drawings showing a recommended approach to each area including a conceptual layout of shooting orientation, backstops, berms, firing lines, and lanes. ~~[Note 1: there are ongoing discussions on the Buffalo Rd location and whether it truly constitutes an appropriate place for concentrated shooting; this requires further exploration. The Committee could continue to try to resolve this question in its deliberations or could decide to craft a recommendation for WDFW to undertake additional work to figure out the Buffalo Rd. site. This issue is not resolved and needs further discussion.] [Note 2: conceptual drawings for the north sites exist and for the south sites are under development.]~~

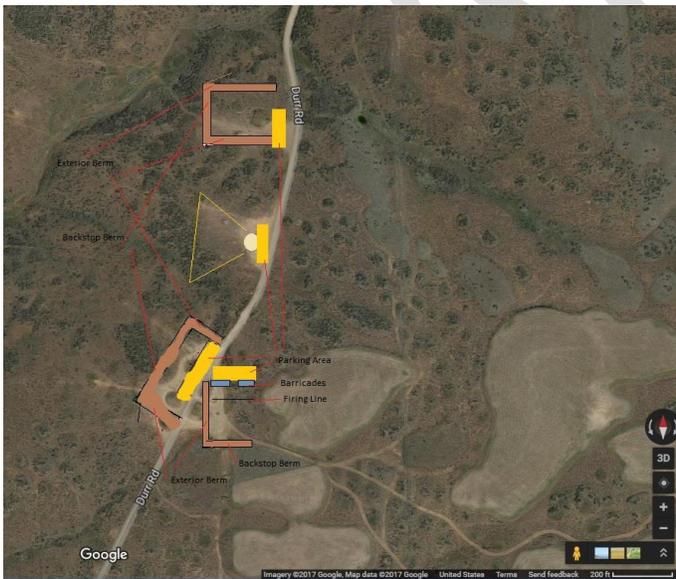
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Figure 2: General Conceptual Diagram for a Managed Shooting Site



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Figure 3: North Durr Road Conceptual Outline

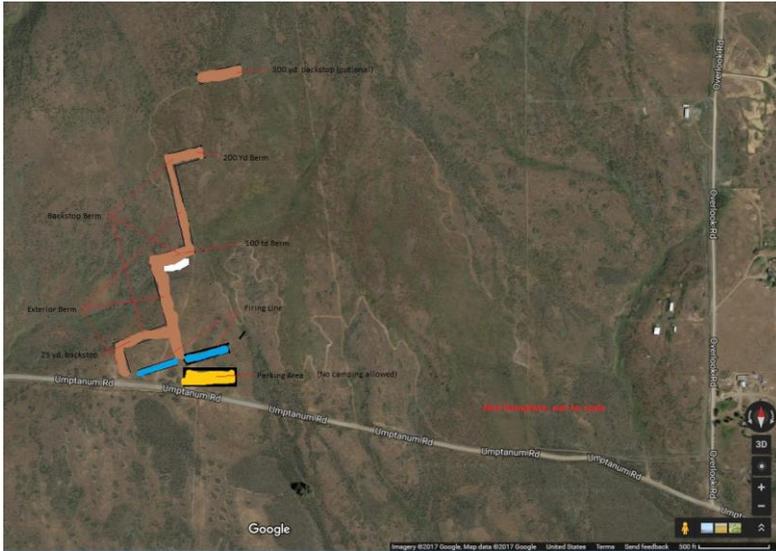


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Figure 4: East Umtanum Conceptual Outline

Commented [AC6]: Added for 10/11 version



**17. [Done; Committee in Agreement?] WDFW should make limited improvements to the locations managed for shooting. Limited improvements should be designed to increase the likelihood of safe and predictable behavior and encourage compliance with requirements and expectations.**

The Committee had extensive deliberations on the types of limited improvements that would be appropriate for managed shooting sites. The goal was to develop an approach to these sites that offered flexibility to make improvements over time and could be implemented relatively inexpensively. The Committee recognizes that implementing these improvements will require resources. Committee Members are prepared to support implementation of these recommendations by supporting resource requests and with volunteer time.

The following limited improvements for sites managed for concentrated shooting are recommended, in order of importance. They are recommended in addition to the signs at areas managed for shooting described in recommendation 4, earlier in this report.

- Install fences, signs, or other deterrents to prevent unsafe direction of fire. This is largely addressed in recommendation 4, but is reiterated here for emphasis
- Manage vegetation and install fire breaks to reduce fire risk, including clearing vegetation for a distance of at least 10 feet from backstops
- Improve backstops using existing materials from within the site, commercially sold bullet traps, or other means to achieve a backstop that is at least 10 feet in height
- Identify shooting directions and lanes and install separation berms of at least 8 feet in height between shooting areas

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- Install durable bench rests for sites used for rifle shooting and durable elevated stands at sites used for pistol and shotgun shooting suitable for placing ammunition, supplies, tools, etc.
- Clearly mark intended firing lines with marking paint, signage, or other means
- Improve or relocate existing access roads and improve parking including graveling parking areas, maintaining them relatively level and free of vegetation, and separating parking areas from roads and from shooting areas by rocks or other means
- Provide consideration(s) for the disabled
- Provide trash collection or other mechanism to reduce the likelihood of littering
- Provide sanitation stations (outdoor toilets)

Public and private grant funding may be available for these sorts of improvements and should be pursued.

#### IV. Conclusion

*[Placeholder; to be added]*

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Appendix A: Committee Recommendations by Phase

<b>Draft Recommendation</b>	<b>Phase I</b>	<b>Phase II</b>
1. WDFW should not prohibit or discourage dispersed shooting in compliance with applicable rules and regulations in the Wenas Wildlife Area.	X	X
2. WDFW should take a phased approach to making improvements at the Wenas Wildlife Area.	X	X
3. The WTS Advisory Committee should continue to meet to offer WDFW advice and support as recommendations are implemented. Meetings should be quarterly for the first year and semi-annually after that until the Department and the Committee determine that further support is not needed.	X	x
4. WDFW should develop and install clearer and increased signage at the Wildlife Area including at access points, at the four areas recommended for management for concentrated shooting, and at three identified sites of known likely overlap between shooting and other types of uses at the Wenas.	X	
5. WDFW should develop simple and clear educational materials for all users of the Wenas Wildlife Area, with a particular emphasis on clear materials addressing regulations and best practices for shooting on public lands.	X	
6. WDFW should develop maps to describe all primary locations of roads and trails, indicate areas of concentrated shooting, and indicate areas of high use areas for other types of recreation (hiking trails, dog training areas, etc.)	X	
7. WDFW should ensure broad distribution of educational materials and maps via multiple distribution methods.	X	
8. WDFW should increase staff presence at the Wildlife Area to offer information to users	X	
9. WDFW should create and fill the position of Outreach Liaison for WDFW Region 3.		X
10. WDFW should support and expand the use of volunteers at the Wenas Wildlife Area to help distribute information.	X	
11. WDFW should revise its regulations on shooting on public lands (WAC 220-500-140 and WAC 220-500-220) to match DNR's regulations on shooting on public lands (WAC 332-52-145) so the regulations are consistent. If there are improvements or clarifications to be made to the regulations for shooting on public lands they should be made at the same time to both the WDFW and the DNR regulations.	X	
12. WDFW should enhance coordination with local law enforcement, non-enforcement WDFW programs, and volunteer groups (as appropriate) to focus their available patrols and on-site presence for the Wenas at sites of concentrated shooting during anticipated high-use periods and should create and fill at least one additional enforcement officer position for Region 3.		X
13. WDFW should offer an Eyes in the Woods course and support for the Wenas Wildlife Area, preferably in early spring 2018.		X
14. WDFW should develop a mobile application to make it simpler for people to document and report illegal behavior.		X
15. WDFW should develop and/or adopt a records management system capable of producing analysis-ready reports specific to public safety.		X
16. WDFW should actively manage the following locations for concentrated shooting.	X	
17. WDFW should make limited improvements to the locations managed for shooting. Limited improvements should be designed to increase the likelihood of safe and predictable behavior and encourage compliance with requirements and expectations.		X

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